In the Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 8 ~~1~~, wherein the one or more toxic materials are selected from the group consisting of organic solvents (polar or non-polar), unpolymerized monomers, polymerization catalysts, oligomers, and polymerization initiators.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 8 ~~1~~, wherein the densified carbon dioxide composition is a liquid composition, and wherein the immersing and removing steps are carried out in an enclosed chamber.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 8 ~~1~~, wherein the immersing step comprises adjusting the pressure and/or temperature of the densified carbon dioxide composition to selectively absorb toxic materials from the polymeric material.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 8 ~~1~~, further comprising:

lowering the density of the removed densified carbon dioxide composition such that the toxic materials entrained therein become separated therefrom; and

removing the separated toxic materials.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein the step of lowering the density comprises reducing pressure and/or increasing temperature of the densified carbon dioxide composition.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 8 ~~1~~, wherein carbon dioxide in the densified carbon dioxide composition is present in a supercritical state.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of Claim 1,~~ A method of producing a biocompatible intraluminal prosthesis for *in vivo* use, comprising:

providing an intraluminal prosthesis having a portion thereof formed from polymeric material, wherein the polymeric material contains one or more toxic materials;

immersing the polymeric material in a densified carbon dioxide composition such that the toxic materials are absorbed by the densified carbon dioxide composition, wherein the carbon dioxide contains one or more of a co-solvent, a surfactant, and a co-surfactant; and

removing the densified carbon dioxide composition containing the toxic materials from the polymeric material, such that the intraluminal prosthesis is suitable for *in vivo* use.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of Claim 1, wherein the intraluminal prosthesis is a~~ A method of producing a biocompatible stent for *in vivo* use, comprising:

providing a stent having a portion thereof formed from polymeric material, wherein the polymeric material contains one or more toxic materials;

immersing the polymeric material in a densified carbon dioxide composition such that the toxic materials are absorbed by the densified carbon dioxide composition; and

removing the densified carbon dioxide composition containing the toxic materials from the polymeric material, such that the stent is suitable for *in vivo* use.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of Claim 1, further comprising~~ A method of producing a biocompatible intraluminal prosthesis for *in vivo* use, comprising:

providing an intraluminal prosthesis having a portion thereof formed from polymeric material, wherein the polymeric material contains one or more toxic materials;

masking one or more portions of the polymeric material ~~prior to immersing the polymeric material in a densified carbon dioxide composition~~, such that toxic materials are absorbed from unmasked portions of the polymeric material;

immersing the polymeric material in a densified carbon dioxide composition such that the toxic materials are absorbed by the densified carbon dioxide composition; and

removing the densified carbon dioxide composition containing the toxic materials from the polymeric material, such that the intraluminal prosthesis is suitable for *in vivo* use.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 8 ~~1~~, wherein the polymeric material is erodible.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of Claim 1, wherein the polymeric material is~~ A method of producing a biocompatible intraluminal prosthesis for *in vivo* use, comprising:

providing an intraluminal prosthesis having a portion thereof formed from non-erodible polymeric material, wherein the polymeric material contains one or more toxic materials;

immersing the polymeric material in a densified carbon dioxide composition such that the toxic materials are absorbed by the densified carbon dioxide composition; and

removing the densified carbon dioxide composition containing the toxic materials from the polymeric material, such that the intraluminal prosthesis is suitable for *in vivo* use.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of Claim 1, wherein the polymeric material is a~~ A method of producing a biocompatible intraluminal prosthesis for *in vivo* use, comprising:

providing an intraluminal prosthesis having a coating of polymeric material on one or more portions of the intraluminal prosthesis, wherein the polymeric material contains one or more toxic materials;

immersing the polymeric material in a densified carbon dioxide composition such that the toxic materials are absorbed by the densified carbon dioxide composition; and

removing the densified carbon dioxide composition containing the toxic materials from the polymeric material, such that the intraluminal prosthesis is suitable for *in vivo* use.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein the erodible polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of, surgical gut, silk, cotton, liposomes, poly(hydroxybutyrate), polycarbonate, polyacrylate, polyanhydride, polyethylene glycol, poly(ortho esters), poly(phosphoesters), polyesters, polyamides, polyphosphazenes, poly(*p*-dioxane), poly(amino acid), polyglactin, erodible hydrogels, collagen, chitosan, poly(lactic acid), poly(L-lactic acid), poly(D,L-lactic acid), poly(glycolic acid), poly(D-lactic-co-glycolic acid), poly(L-lactic-co-glycolic acid), poly (D,L-lactic-co-glycolic acid), poly(Є-caprolactone), poly(valerolactone), poly(hydroxy butyrate), poly(hydrovalerate), polydioxanone, poly(propylene fumarate), poly(ethyleneoxide)-poly(butylenetetraphthalate), poly(lactic acid-*co*-lysine), poly(L-lactic acid) and poly(Є-caprolactone) copolymers.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 20 ~~15~~, wherein the one or more toxic materials are selected from the group consisting of organic solvents (polar or non-polar), unpolymerized monomers, polymerization catalysts, oligomers, and polymerization initiators.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 20 ~~15~~, wherein the densified carbon dioxide composition is a liquid composition, and wherein the immersing and removing steps are carried out in an enclosed chamber.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 20 ~~15~~, wherein the step of lowering the density comprises reducing pressure and/or increasing temperature of the densified carbon dioxide composition.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 20 ~~15~~, wherein carbon dioxide in the densified carbon dioxide composition is present in a supercritical state.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of Claim 15, wherein the intraluminal prosthesis is a~~ A method of producing a biocompatible stent for *in vivo* use, comprising:

providing a stent having a portion thereof formed from polymeric material, wherein the polymeric material contains one or more toxic materials;

immersing the polymeric material in a densified carbon dioxide composition such that the toxic materials are absorbed by the densified carbon dioxide composition, wherein pressure and/or temperature of the densified carbon dioxide composition is adjusted to selectively absorb toxic materials from the polymeric material;

removing the densified carbon dioxide composition containing the toxic materials from the polymeric material;

lowering the density of the removed densified carbon dioxide composition such that the toxic materials entrained therein become separated therefrom; and

removing the separated toxic materials, such that the stent is suitable for *in vivo* use.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of Claim 15, further comprising~~ A method of producing a biocompatible intraluminal prosthesis for *in vivo* use, comprising:

providing an intraluminal prosthesis having a portion thereof formed from polymeric material, wherein the polymeric material contains one or more toxic materials;

masking one or more portions of the polymeric material ~~prior to immersing the polymeric material in a densified carbon dioxide composition, such that toxic materials are absorbed from unmasked portions of the polymeric material~~;

immersing the polymeric material in a densified carbon dioxide composition such that the toxic materials are absorbed by the densified carbon dioxide composition, wherein pressure and/or temperature of the densified carbon dioxide composition is adjusted to selectively absorb toxic materials from the polymeric material;

removing the densified carbon dioxide composition containing the toxic materials from the polymeric material;

lowering the density of the removed densified carbon dioxide composition such that the toxic materials entrained therein become separated therefrom; and

removing the separated toxic materials, such that the intraluminal prosthesis is suitable for *in vivo* use.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 20 ~~15~~, wherein the polymeric material is erodible.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of Claim 15~~ A method of producing a biocompatible intraluminal prosthesis for *in vivo* use, comprising:

providing an intraluminal prosthesis having a portion thereof formed from polymeric material, wherein the polymeric material contains one or more toxic materials, wherein the polymeric material is non-erodible;

immersing the polymeric material in a densified carbon dioxide composition such that the toxic materials are absorbed by the densified carbon dioxide composition, wherein pressure and/or temperature of the densified carbon dioxide composition is adjusted to selectively absorb toxic materials from the polymeric material;

removing the densified carbon dioxide composition containing the toxic materials from the polymeric material;

lowering the density of the removed densified carbon dioxide composition such that the toxic materials entrained therein become separated therefrom; and

removing the separated toxic materials, such that the intraluminal prosthesis is suitable for *in vivo* use.

24. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of Claim 15~~ A method of producing a biocompatible intraluminal prosthesis for *in vivo* use, comprising:

providing an intraluminal prosthesis having a portion thereof formed from polymeric material, wherein the polymeric material contains one or more toxic materials;

immersing the polymeric material in a densified carbon dioxide composition such that the toxic materials are absorbed by the densified carbon dioxide composition,

wherein pressure and/or temperature of the densified carbon dioxide composition is adjusted to selectively absorb toxic materials from the polymeric material, wherein the carbon dioxide contains one or more of a co-solvent, a surfactant, and a co-surfactant;

removing the densified carbon dioxide composition containing the toxic materials from the polymeric material;

lowering the density of the removed densified carbon dioxide composition such that the toxic materials entrained therein become separated therefrom; and

removing the separated toxic materials, such that the intraluminal prosthesis is suitable for *in vivo* use.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of Claim 15, wherein the polymeric material is a~~ A method of producing a biocompatible intraluminal prosthesis for *in vivo* use, comprising;

providing an intraluminal prosthesis having a coating of polymeric material on one or more portions of the intraluminal prosthesis, wherein the polymeric material contains one or more toxic materials;

immersing the polymeric material in a densified carbon dioxide composition such that the toxic materials are absorbed by the densified carbon dioxide composition, wherein pressure and/or temperature of the densified carbon dioxide composition is adjusted to selectively absorb toxic materials from the polymeric material;

removing the densified carbon dioxide composition containing the toxic materials from the polymeric material;

lowering the density of the removed densified carbon dioxide composition such that the toxic materials entrained therein become separated therefrom; and

removing the separated toxic materials, such that the intraluminal prosthesis is suitable for *in vivo* use.

26. (Original) The method of Claim 22, wherein the erodible polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of, surgical gut, silk, cotton, liposomes, poly(hydroxybutyrate), polycarbonate, polyacrylate, polyanhydride, polyethylene glycol,

poly(ortho esters), poly(phosphoesters), polyesters, polyamides, polyphosphazenes, poly(*p*-dioxane), poly(amino acid), polyglactin, erodible hydrogels, collagen, chitosan, poly(lactic acid), poly(L-lactic acid), poly(D,L-lactic acid), poly(glycolic acid), poly(D-lactic-co-glycolic acid), poly(L-lactic-co-glycolic acid), poly (D,L-lactic-co-glycolic acid), poly(Є-caprolactone), poly(valerolactone), poly(hydroxy butyrate), poly(hydrovalerate), polydioxanone, poly(propylene fumarate), poly(ethyleneoxide)-poly(butylenetetraphthalate), poly(lactic acid-*co*-lysine), poly(L-lactic acid) and poly(Є-caprolactone) copolymers.